

BOISE, MONDAY, JUNE 12, 2023, AT 10:00 A.M.

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO

STATE OF IDAHO,)	
)	Docket No. 50470
Plaintiff-Respondent,)	
)	
v.)	
)	
APRIL DAWN RAMOS,)	
)	
Defendant-Appellant.)	

Appeal from the District Court of the Seventh Judicial District, State of Idaho, Bingham County. Darren B. Simpson, District Judge.

Eric D. Fredericksen, State Appellate Public Defender, Boise, for Appellant.

Raúl R. Labrador, Idaho Attorney General, Boise, for Respondent.

This appeal concerns the denial of a motion to suppress. While on patrol, deputy police officer Brock Katseanes discovered an unattended parked car. The car was unlocked and its trunk and front windows were open. After relaying the license plate number to police dispatch, Katseanes was informed that the car belonged to April Ramos, with whom Katseanes was familiar. Katseanes, several more officers, and a canine searched the surrounding area for Ramos but did not find her.

Due to his previous encounters with Ramos, Katseanes believed that the car contained illegal drugs. The canine, however, did not alert during a drug sniff of the car's exterior. Katseanes then remarked that the car was parked in a handicapped parking spot and the officers subsequently conducted an inventory search of the car prior to having the car towed. During the inventory search, the officers found methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia.

Ramos was charged with possession of a controlled substance, as well as possession of drug paraphernalia. She moved to suppress all evidence found during the inventory search of the car. The district court denied her motion. Ramos conditionally pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance but retained her right to appeal the denial of her motion to suppress. (As a result of the plea deal, the State agreed to dismiss the possession of drug paraphernalia charge.) Ramos timely appealed and her case was assigned to the Idaho Court of Appeals, which affirmed the decision of the district court. *State v. Ramos*, No. 48473, 2022 WL 2375831, at *1 (Idaho Ct. App. July 1, 2022, *as amended* Sept. 2, 2022). Ramos subsequently petitioned the Idaho Supreme Court for review, which was granted.